ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of managing the change of time slot allocation in classical MS-SP ring networks. In two-fiber rings, the criterion for choosing the low priority AU-4 to be used for the protection in case of simple failure can be summarized as follows: given an STM-n ring line signal, where "n" is the overall number of the handled channels, there results that LP AU-4#X_{LP} = AU-4 #(X_{HP} + n/2), where X is the HP AU-4 index in the failured span. In four-fiber rings, AU-4 LP = AU-4 #X HP. Should two or more failures occur, criteria are provided for selecting one of the failured spans and tracing the problem back to the case of single two/four fiber ring failure.